

Defeat information warfare today

By SSgt. Harold Morrow
Base computer systems security officer

If you haven't yet heard, today has officially been named "Computer Security Day" by Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman, Air Force Chief of Staff.

Why has he dedicated an entire day to a topic like this? If you've been keeping up with current headlines, you already know why. In this Information Age, one of the best ways to incapacitate a foe is through attacking the enemy's information systems and computers—otherwise known as Information Warfare. This can be done by hacking passwords and introducing computer viruses. With this in mind, Fogleman has asked everyone in the Air Force to do five simple things today.

□ Run anti-virus software on all hard drives, diskettes and other storage devices.

The approved anti-virus software is IBM Anti-Virus version 2.5.2, located on the COMPUSEC public folder in Microsoft Exchange and the base bulletin board in cc:Mail. Setup the software to run a full automated scan at least weekly—contact your computer systems security officer on how to do this. Check all e-mail attachments prior to opening them. Save the attachment to a floppy disk or temporary directory and scan it. If infected, then disinfect if possible. The original e-mail attachment will still be infected, so delete it and use the "clean" copy. You should adopt this

practice, because the anti-virus program cannot check e-mail attachments from within the e-mail program.

□ Change your local area network and e-mail passwords.

Choose passwords you can remember without writing them down and make sure they're not dictionary words or proper names. A good password-cracking program can try every one of these in a matter of minutes. Try an acronym made from a phrase you can easily remember. For example, the phrase, "my password is very hard to crack" might yield "Mp!v#2c" as a password.

If you want to get fancy, substitute special characters for some of the letters—"Mp!v#2c". The "#" looks like an "h," and the "!" looks like an "i." Easy to remember, but even tougher to crack!

□ Install and take the computer-based Air Force Safeware Security Orientation course.

The safeware program is located on all Liberty servers, Lakenheath Exchange-1 server and on the 48th Medical Group server. You can find installation instructions on the COMPUSEC public folder in Microsoft Exchange and the base bulletin board in cc:Mail. The following three sections, listed under the COMPUSEC Module, are required for initial training: It's In Your Hands; I'll Never Tell; and They're Here ... Computer Viruses.

Each should take no more than 20 minutes and everyone must pass each section with a minimum score of 85 percent, which means no

more than two wrong answers.

□ Discuss ways to improve computer security specific to your unit and workcenter.

Your unit's computer systems security officer should be conducting unit training on this subject today.

□ Understand proper use of Air Force computer systems and networks, and only access Internet websites for official business or authorized purposes. Be advised that the 48th Communications Squadron has a monitoring system and checks for inappropriate Internet access. If your online activity violates law or Air Force policy, it will be reported through the appropriate channels.

Look for a personal message from General Fogleman today for Air Force users with WWW access. This message is available at www.af.mil and includes an audio clip of the general speaking.

A few things to remember:

□ Know who your computer systems security officer is. If in doubt, call the base computer systems security officer at Ext. 2755.

□ Know how to recognize the symptoms of a computer virus.

□ Do not leave your computer on unattended while logged into the network.

□ Safeguard your information.

Today's computer security training is important. Make it relevant, make it interesting, make it last. The Air Force goal is "Information Superiority through Information Protection"—you are the key!

'I Hate Hamlet' slated for March

By Becky Papp
"Jet 48" correspondent

Don't let the title fool you. Whether you are a great admirer of the Bard, or you prefer more contemporary entertainment, "I Hate Hamlet" will tickle your funny bone.

Written by Paul Rudnick as a tribute to actors and the theater, this fast-paced comedy offers ghosts, real estate and chipmunks wrapped in thought-provoking solos on the afterlife, high-school Shakespeare and working with hand puppets.

The play unfolds as Andrew, played by Stephen Kroth, a television actor moves to New York and is faced with the role of Hamlet. The ghost of Shakespearean thespian, John Barrymore, played by SrA. Will Emond, 48th Security Police Squadron, is sent to help him prepare for the role.

Barrymore's job is complicated by Gary, played by SrA. Stan Syvertsen, 48th Communications Squadron, a Hollywood agent who wants Andrew to come back to California and forget this "Shakespeare, algebra on stage."



Photo by A1C Grace Hunt

Steve Kroth hams it up with a puppet.

The romantic Deirdre, played by SSgt. Anna Peace, 352nd Operations Support Squadron, is Andrew's girlfriend and loves only one thing more than Laura Ashley—Shakespeare.

The physic real estate agent Felicia,

played by Capt. Susan Scrafford, 48th Services Squadron, offers assistance with seances and gives Deirdre advice about sex. Lillian is Andrew's agent, played by Nancy Hill, who hides a little secret about the late John Barrymore behind her German reserve.

This is a RAF Lakenheath debut for some of the actors, though everyone in the production has theater experience. Director Steve Doke has background in a community, academic and professional theater. He's directed "I Hate Hamlet" in Heidelberg, Germany and requested to direct it here.

"This is my favorite contemporary American comedy," said Doke. "It's fun. It's short. It's like a really good TV sitcom."

The production is supported by understudies A1C Megan Tretheway, 48th OSS, and James Faris, as well as choreographer Paula Myers. The technical crew include volunteers from Lakenheath and the surrounding communities.

Performance dates are March 14, 15 and 21 - 23 at the community activities center. Ticket prices (excluding Sunday matinee) include dinner. For more information, call Ext. 2221.